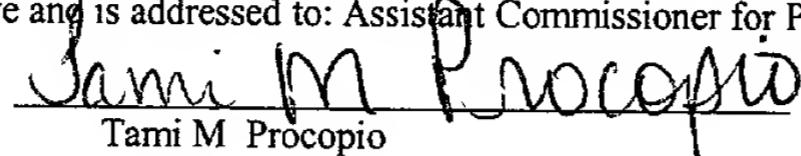


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Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Claes GUSTAFSSON, *et al.*

Serial No.: Not yet assigned
Continuation-in-part of 09/144,085

Filing Date: Herewith

For: POLYKETIDE SYNTHASE GENE
FROM SORANGIUM CELLULOSUM

Examiner: Not yet assigned,
Parent assigned to
Maryam Monshipouri, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned,
Parent in 1652

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the specification as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

On page 1 of the specification, under the heading “Cross-Reference to Related Applications,” please delete the paragraph which begins “The present application is a continuation in part...each of which is incorporated herein by reference.” and substitute the following:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/144,085 filed 31 August 1998, and issued 28 August 2001 as U.S. patent 6,208,999 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/010,809 filed 22 January 1998 and now U.S. patent 6,090,601. Priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Priority is also claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) from U.S. Serial No. 60/271,245 filed 15 February 2001. The contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.--

In the Claims:

Please add the following claims:

2. (New) The vector of claim 1 which comprise the genes of the *tmbA* gene cluster.
3. (New) A method to produce a polyketide synthase which method comprises culturing cells which contain the vector of claim 2 under conditions wherein the *tmbA* gene cluster is expressed.

REMARKS

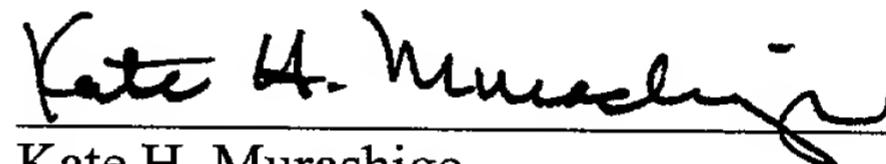
This application is filed to claim priority both from the regular U.S. applications set forth hereinabove and from a provisional application filed 15 February 2001. The specification and drawings of the present application are identical to those of the provisional application 60/271,245.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. **300622002021**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 28, 2001

By:


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